

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Riverside Avenue Site - Removal Polrep.

237769



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: POLREP #4
SPECIAL #1: On-Site Removal Activities Commence
Riverside Avenue Site
02PC
Newark, NJ
Latitude: 40.7670135 Longitude: -74.1593681

To: Andrew Raddant, Department of Interior
Dave Sweeney, NJDEP

From: Paul L. Kahn, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 10/18/2011

Reporting Period: 09/30/11 thru 10/18/11

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	02PC	Contract Number:	EP-S2-10-01
D.O. Number:	0038	Action Memo Date:	8/23/2011
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	10/17/2011	Start Date:	10/17/2011
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	NJSFN0204232	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time-Critical CERCLA Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

The Riverside Avenue Site is an abandoned industrial facility on the banks of the Passaic River. Since the early 1900s the Site had been used for many businesses, including a paint manufacturer, a packaging

company, and a chemical warehouse. It consists of two abandoned buildings on approximately two acres. The property is owned by the City of Newark and was acquired in tax foreclosure proceedings.

1.1.2.1 Location

29 Riverside Avenue, Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, between the Passaic River and Marder Highway.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Ten abandoned 12,000-15,000 gallon USTs containing hazardous wastes have been identified on the property. Approximately 100 3,000 -10,000 gallon ASTs have been identified in the buildings, many of which have been sampled for hazardous materials. Two tanks containing an oily wastes have been identified in the basement of one of the buildings. A number of 55-gallon drums and smaller containers have been observed in the buildings.

In addition, there are a number of sumps that may contain hazardous substances.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

The preliminary assessment was completed in 2010. Two basement tanks in one building and the sumps of the other building have been sampled for hazardous waste characterization. See Documents Section for results of the site assessment sampling/analytical.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

See Profile section.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On 10/30/09, EPA responded at the request of NJDEP to an oil discharge on the Passaic River in Newark, NJ. The discharge was traced to the Riverside Ave site. NJDEP contained the oil discharge and secured the release, which was identified as a drainage pipe from the buildings on Site to the bank of the river.

NJDEP and the City of Newark Requested EPA assistance in assessing the Site and performing an emergency removal action to identify and remediate the source of the discharge. On November 9, 2009, the EPA Region 2 Emergency and Remedial Response Division (ERRD) Acting Director verbally authorized a project ceiling of \$250,000, of which \$250,000 is for mitigation contracting to perform a response action.

On 11/11/09, ERRS was mobilized to the Site. The potential for further discharge from the Site into the Passaic River was eliminated by plugging pipes from the buildings that were connected to two tanks identified as the source of the discharge. Two basement tanks and two building sumps were sampled for waste characterization.

On 2/11/2011 OSC Kahn visited the Site for a recon. Excessive amounts of snow and ice-covered floors precluded a full recon from being done.

The OSC has verbally informed outside legal counsel for the City that EPA is initiating a removal action. The OSC has also mailed an Access Agreement to the Director of Housing and Real Estate for signature.

On 09/30/11, OSC Kahn performed a walk thru with KEMRON Response Manager and Health and Safety Tech. Preliminary information gathered to create Health and Safety Plan, site security and plans to board up access points in the Buildings #7 and #12.

The ERRS crew mobilized to the Site on 10/07/2011 and began boarding up open doorways and windows to both buildings on the Site. Night time and weekend security guard service has been initiated. ERRS provided draft Work Plan to OSC. It was reviewed and approved.

Office and crew trailers have are fully operational and ERRS is clearing vegetation from the perimeter of both buildings. ERRS has discovered two open pits within 50 feet of Building 12 on the south side. The pits will be sampled and addressed if needed. ERRS augured-out a clogged downspout from the roof which was diverting rainwater into Building 7. ERRS is wrapping asbestos containing material (ACM) on overhead pipes in the ground floor of Building 7 for the protection of workers passing through the area. Low tide on the Passaic River revealed the presence of a partially buried 55-gallon drum. This is believed to be a drum of chemicals that was reportedly rolled from the Site into the river by some local youts. This drum will be recovered as soon as the appropriate equipment is mobilized to the Site.

ERRS marked-out the perimeter of the underground tank farm and the clearance to excavate has been received by the local utility provider. Plans are in-place to begin excavating the soil covering the USTs next week.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

EPA met with representatives from the City of Newark on the site on 11/09/09 to discuss the history of the site and the City's environmental assessment activities for the property to date. EPA will work with the City of Newark to identify PRPs for the site. During the 2/11/2011 recon the OSC discovered paperwork in a former office area bearing the logo of "Ted Frey Industries" and "Abrachem Logistics", both companies are believed to have operated at this location in the past. However, from prior knowledge at another Superfund site, both of these companies went bankrupt and ceased to exist years ago. The OSC has identified three other PRPs and will work with regional ORC to gather additional information regarding these PRPs.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Excavate underground tank farm area to expose buried tanks, acquire samples, remove contents and

bulk for disposal.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

See above.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Continue removal activities in conformance with the Site Work Plan.

2.2.2 Issues

none

2.3 Logistics Section

TBD

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

An Action Memo in the amount of \$1,175,000 was approved on 8/23/2011 for this removal action.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

TBD

2.6 Liaison Officer

n/a

2.7 Information Officer

n/a

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

TBD

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

n/a

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

n/a

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

USCG

NJ Division of Criminal Justice

City of Newark OEM

City of Newark Fire Department

NJDEP

4. Personnel On Site

None at present time.

5. Definition of Terms

n/a

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

See results of site assessment on Documents Section.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

As events dictate.

7. Situational Reference Materials

See Documents Section.